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The EXAMINER.

From Thursday *March* 6, to Thursday *March* 13. 1711.

THE Enemies of the Miniſtry ſeem to wonder, why the Kingdom is ſo uneaſy at the Exorbitant Share we have born in the War, why the Subſidies we have paid to moſt Princes in the Alliance, have been reckoned of late, ſo Unequal and ſo Burthenſom, and why we have been ſo bold to Stipulate, abſtractedly with *France*, particular Advantages to *Britain* (at leaſt if the Fact be true) in order to a Treaty of Peace? The chief Reaſon of their Complaint, ſeems to be the Hardſhips we thereby put upon our *good* Allies the *Dutch*, who they think would never be guilty of the like Proceedings. To Anſwer this, I ſhall not go about to retaliate upon the *States*, what hath been confidently Reported, of their attempting more than once to enter into Separate Meaſures with *France*; nor Reflect upon the Offer that their Miniſter made at our Court, to inſiſt no longer upon recovering *Spain* and the *Weſt-Indies* from the Houſe of *Bourbon*, provided we would ſuffer them to Share in the Advantages the Enemy had offer'd us. I ſhall only obſerve what their former Conduct hath been in a War, wherein the *States* were ingaged with their Allies againſt *France*; to this end, I will Tranſcribe a Paſſage out of Monſieur *De St. Diſdier*'s *Hiſtory of the Negotiations at* Nimeguen.

" The *States General*, who paid great Subſidies " to all the Princes, who had entred into their " Alliance, began at that time to conſult how " to retrench ſo vaſt an Expence, which they " thought they had ſo much more reaſon to " do, becauſe they found they had fruitleſsly " exhauſted themſelves by the Charges of a " War, which was now altogether become " the War of their Allies, and in which they " ought not to continue any longer, but in " common with the reſt.

" What Glory ſoever it was to the *States*, " that they could reckon amongſt their Penſi- " oners, the *Emperor*, the King of *Spain*, the " King of *Denmark*, the Princes of the Houſe " of *Brunſwick*, the Duke of *Newbourg*, and the " Biſhop of *Munſter*, it could not with-hold " them from letting thoſe ſeveral Princes know " their Inability to pay any longer ſuch vaſt " Subſidies, except the Duke of *Newbourg*, in con- " ſideration of the Alliance he had lately made " with them; and the Biſhop of *Munſter*, whoſe " Neighbourhood and Temper, they have al- " ways been apprehenſive of: They did not " immediately ſtop theſe Subſidies, but the " *Dutch* Ambaſſadors at *Nimeguen*, declared to " thoſe of their Allies, that they would do it " the next Campaign, unleſs the *French* were " made to declare themſelves, that ſo they " might be Convicted of being in the wrong, " if they refuſed reaſonable Propoſitions.

" By this means, the *Dutch* ſtopped the " Mouths of their Allies, and obliged them to " haſten the Opening of the Conferences, to- " wards which no Step had been made before. " The *States* pretended they had good right " to Complain of all thoſe, who for the ſake of " their own particular Intereſt, did not deſire " the War ſhould end ſo ſoon; therefore the " *Dutch* were not contented with, only, re- " trenching the uſual Subſidies, but they even " talked of coming to a *Separate* Agreement " [with *France*] in ſuch a Manner, that the " Allies eaſily took the Allarm, eſpecially " when they Conſider'd, that the exceſſive Ex- " pence the *States General* had been at during " the War, had very much impoveriſhed the " whole Seven Provinces.

And accordingly, the *Dutch* did make a Separate Peace with *France*, as is notoriouſly known to all the World. I ſhall leave the Reader to make his own Remarks, and content my ſelf with obſerving, that there was nothing in this Proceeding of the *States*, but what is agreeable to the Conduct of a wiſe People, Frugal, and careful of the good of their Country. It is certainly the Duty, as well as Intereſt, of thoſe who Govern, by all poſſible Means, to extricate themſelves from the Injuries and Horror of a bloody and expenſive War, which hath ſo corrupted the Age, that it is not ſufficient to have a Q——n upon the Throne of unexampled Piety; a Miniſtry Vigilant and Juſt, purſuing the true Intereſt of their Prince and Country: It is not ſufficient that this Miniſtry makes choice of the ableſt Perſons in the ſeveral important Offices of the Kingdom, unleſs thoſe Perſons (which in time of Peace they will have more Leiſure and Conveniency to do) likewiſe take care to prevent thoſe who are employed under them, from abuſing their ſeveral Truſts. As I have often made this Reflection my ſelf, ſo it hath been lately revived in me by a Letter I have juſt received from ſome ingenious, tho' unknown Perſon; I ſhould do Injury to the Author, not to deliver his Sentiments in his own Words: I ſhall therefore Tranſcribe his Letter exactly as it was ſent me, with ſome few Remarks upon it.

To the Examiner.

SIR,

" YOU have been ſo taken up with Cenſu- " ring the Corruptions of the *Adverſe* " *Party*,

" *Party*, that you ſeem to have wanted either " Time or Diſpoſition, to take notice of " thoſe among your *own*; which tho' not ſo " *Flagrant*, or Univerſal, do daily produce very " pernicious Conſequences. I know a certain " Perſon in Employment, who beſides the firm- " neſs of his *Principles*, in reſpect to the preſent " Proceedings of the Court, is a Man of un- " doubted Honour and Vertue, of admirable " Senſe and Learning, and every way Qualifi'd " for the Execution of any Office. I am Con- " vinced as much as it is poſſible to be of any " Truth, that no *Bribe* whatſoever can Cor- " rupt his Integrity, or Sway him in the leaſt " to act againſt his Opinion; being juſt and " liberal in his Nature, and eaſy in his For- " tune: Yet ſo it happens, that there are no " where greater, or groſſer Abuſes; no where " more *Bribery* and *Oppreſſion*, than what are " practiſed by thoſe who are Employed under " him: The worſt of it is, that theſe Miſ- " chiefs are the *Accidental* Effects of this *Perſons* " good Qualities, whoſe Spirit being above " any ſordid Aims of his own, can never be " brought to ſuſpect them in thoſe whom he " hath thought fit to Truſt: This Candid Diſ- " poſition, not only unqualifies him from ſuſ- " pecting any Abuſes in his *Officers*; but likewiſe " from admitting or believing what ever Com- " plaints are made againſt them: By this means, " the Publick is wholly diſapointed of all the " good Effects, it might hope from a worthy " Man being in Employment. The Chief *Un-* " *derlings*, by oppreſſing not only thoſe who " apply to them for Buſineſs, but their own " Inferiors in Office, grow to much greater " Riches than their Maſter; and it is an Ag- " gravation, that ſince the Publick muſt be " Defranded, the Profit ſhould accrue to " thoſe who leaſt deſerve it. I hope all thoſe " who are in high Station, if they chance to " read this Paper, will from hence take the " Hint to Examine amongſt their Dependents, " by what means ſome of them have come, " in ſo ſhort a time, to ſuch Prodigious Wealth; " and thereupon proceeded to puniſh thoſe " Crimes, from which themſelves are ſo *Ex-* " *empt*. I therefore deſire you will be pleaſed " to Print this Letter in your next Paper, if " you think it deſerves that Hohour, and give " the Publick and me your Opinion in the Mat- " ter. I am with much Reſpect,

Sir, your moſt Humble Servant.

I wiſh the occaſion of my Correſpondents Complaints were confined to one or two Inſtances; for I believe it may be affirmed, that there are very few great Employments in this Kingdom, where ſome corrupt *Deputy*, *Clerk*, *Secretary*, or other inferior *Officer*, doth not contrive ſome way or other, to make his *Perquiſites* exceed all the lawful Advantages of thoſe under whom he Acts; I cannot help charging this univerſal Depravity upon thoſe, who for many Years, by their ill Examples, had opportunity, from the length and hurry of the War, of ſpreading this Infection throughout the Kingdom, and it will no doubt require ſome time to remove it; neither will that do, without a ſteady courſe of Diligence and Severity. What I have ſaid upon this Subject, I hope even the *Whigs* themſelves will allow to be Impartial, as well as my Duty, in Quality of *Examiner*.

But as this long and expenſive War hath occaſioned many more Abuſes, I may affirm, all *True Engliſhmen*, heartily wiſh a ſpeedy Concluſion may be put to it: We have now a *General*, from whom we may promiſe our ſelves a happy Event: His Birth cannot be more elevated than his Mind, which directs him to purſue the proper Good of his Country only, from which he never divided his own: Tho' his Perſonal Courage be indiſputable, and that he feels no Checks within himſelf, to decline the hazzards of a Field, upon the puſh of a Battle; yet he will never protract the War, when he ſhall find an opportunity to finiſh it with Honour, tho' he were to gain an Hundred Thouſand Pounds a Year by prolonging it. This is that *General* who hath the Hearts, as well as the Acclamations of the People! under whom the Army may fight with Chearfulneſs and Confidence, of receiving all befitting Incouragement and Rewards; their Services ſhall not now be Poſt-poned and ſuch Perſons put over their Heads, who Bribe with that very Money, which had been plundered from them before. The poor *half ſtarved* Soldier may now eat Bread in Fulneſs and Thankſgiving, ſecure from future Fraud and Oppreſſion: This great Man is reſerved by Heaven for the greateſt Work; from his *Magnanimity* and *Integrity*, we expect an honourable Concluſion to a *War*, made *Infamous* to *Britain*, by the Impoſitions of her Neighbours abroad, and the Corruption of her late Managers at Home.

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